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SOME NOTES ON UNITED STATES TREE NAMES

William A. Dayton

Herewith are some observations on the scientific names of the pines in Walter's "Flora Caroliniana" and in the so-called "Walter Herbarium" in London, as well as of knobcone pine, bristlecone fir, two oaks, and the Florida doveplum; also, on the significance of the name "loblolly pine."

Thomas Walter's Pines

Thomas Walter, in his "Flora Caroliniana" (1788), briefly describes (p. 237) five species of pines, as follows:

"*glabra* 1.	foliis geminatis, strobilo oblongo-ovato brevi, cortice glabro.
squarrosa 2.	foliis geminatis glabris brevibus, strobilo ovato brevi, squamis *subretrorsum mucronatis*, cortice scabro.
palustris 3.	foliis trinis sesquipedalibus, strobilo subulato, spinis adscendentibus.
lutea 4.	foliis trinis pedalibus, strobilo ovato-subulato, *spinis rectis*.
Cedrus? 5.	foliis, strobilo subgloboso squamis apice, *spinis retrorsum imbricatis*."

Walter's italic and roman type in the specific names above are not explained by his prefatory note: "Notam dubietatis ad nomen genericum ponere, et differentias typis italicis indicare, saepe contentus fuit"—which appears to be his only interpretation of his italicization.

In the above catalog *Pinus glabra*, *lutea*, and *squarrosa* appear to be new species and original publications by Walter. No. 3 undoubtedly is longleaf pine (*P. palustris* Mill.). His fifth

species, "*Pinus Cedrus*?" is indeed a puzzle. The blank space after "foliis" appears to indicate that Walter himself was not sure of the leaf characters and perhaps had only the cone. It seems unlikely that he had in mind the cedar of Lebanon (*Cedrus libanensis* Juss. ex Mirb., syn. *P. Cedrus* L.). Nor could it have been the Italian stone pine [*P. pinea* L., syn. *P. Cedrus* Uspenski (1834)]. Dr. Little has informally suggested that, because of the phrase "strobilo subgloboso," Walter may have had a pond pine (*P. serotina* Michx.) cone.

Pinus glabra Walt. is generally agreed to be the spruce pine of our southeastern coastal plain.

Pinus squarrosa Walt. is listed by Sargent (Silva of North America, Vol. **11**. 1897), by Shaw (The genus Pinus. Arnold Arbor. Pub. 5. 1914), and by Rehder (Bibliography of cultivated trees and shrubs hardy in the cooler temperate regions of the northern hemisphere. 1949) as a synonym of shortleaf pine (*P. echinata* Mill.) and that is, with little question, the proper disposition of it.

Pinus lutea Walt. is listed in Index Kewensis (1894) and by Sudworth (Nomenclature of the arborescent flora of the United States. U. S. Dept. Agr. Bul. **14**. 1897) as a synonym of longleaf pine (*P. palustris* Mill.). But Sargent, Shaw, and Rehder (*opp. cit.*) hold it to be a synonym of *P. taeda* L., loblolly pine. The latter treatment, despite Walter's use of "pedalibus" in describing the leaves, seems much the more plausible.

It may not be inappropriate at this point to comment on the common name "loblolly pine." Prof. Fernald[1] has published this etymology: "Loblolly Pine, from *loblolly*, a loutish, foolish or useless person." On August 18, 1948, I wrote Prof. Fernald (in part) as follows:

> "With all proper and due respect permit me to question your etymology of the name 'loblolly' in American plant names—such as loblolly bay, loblolly pine, etc. I gravely doubt that the name has any connection whatever with 'a loutish, foolish or useless person.' The first definition of this word in the Oxford Dictionary is as follows: 'Thick gruel or spoon-meat, frequently referred to as a rustic or nautical dish or simple medicinal remedy; burgoo. Hence, a ship-doctor's medicines.' Whence such old nautical expressions as 'loblolly boy' (who would correspond roughly with

[1] Fernald, M. L., and Schubert, Bernice G. Studies of American types in British herbaria. Part III. A few of Philip Miller's species. Rhodora, **50**: (596) 181–190. Aug., 1948.

a present-day pharmacist's mate of the U. S. Navy) and 'loblolly doctor' (a ship surgeon and physician). In the Craigie-Hulbert 'A dictionary of American English on historical principles' (published by the University of Chicago) loblolly is defined thus: '(1) A thick, gruel-like food. . . . (2) A miry puddle or mud-hole.' This dictionary cites (*inter alia*) from the Georgia General Assembly Acts: 219 (1760) this expression: 'Squared timber. . . . made of swamp or loblolly pine.' There we have it, I think, a vernacular expression (based on loblolly, gruel, etc.) for a thick-mucky or swampy place. Forest Service Circular 183, 'Forest Planting Leaflet. Loblolly Pine (*Pinus taeda*),' published 1910, says: 'Loblolly pine is a name which originated in Mississippi and Louisiana, and which designates the place of growth, loblolly being the local name for a thicket swamp.'"

On September 27, 1948, Prof. Fernald replied at length to my letter of August 18, and referred to my remarks on the name "loblolly pine" as follows: "I was very glad to have your detailed notes on the significance of the name 'loblolly.' I had depended too much on Sargent's statement." Fernald's reference to Sargent is, I assume: "Loblolly, a loutish or foolish person, nautically loblolly-boy or surgeon's assistant, is a nautical name for water gruel or spoon meat, and is applied to medicines collectively. It was early used in the West Indies as a plant name, and appears in Plukenet's *Almagestum Botanicum*, published in London in 1696 . . ." (Sargent, Silva of North America **1:** 42. 1892).

As I was to be in London for a brief period in 1950, Dr. Elbert L. Little, Jr. of the U. S. Forest Service asked me to see if there is a specimen of longleaf pine (*P. palustris* Mill. or *P. australis* Michx. f.) in the Fraser volume of Thomas Walter's plants, upon which Walter's Flora Caroliniana was based in part; also if there is a specimen there which could be accepted as the type of *P. lutea* Walt. There are numerous references[2] in the literature to this Fraser folio 117-p. volume of Walter's plants in the British Museum of Natural History at South Kensington, London, and

[2] See, for example:

Gray, Asa. Notices of European herbaria, particularly those most interesting to the North American botanist. Amer. Jour. Sci. **40:** 1–18. Oct.–Dec., 1840.

Hitchcock, A. S. The identification of Walter's grasses. 16th Ann. Rpt. Mo. Bot. Gard.: 31–56. 1905.

Blake, S. F. Some neglected names in Walter's Flora Caroliana. RHODORA **17** (199): 129–137. July, 1915.

Britten, James. Thomas Walter (1740?–88) and his grass. Jour. Bot. **59** (699): 69–74. Mar., 1921.

Fernald, M. L., and Schubert, Bernice G. Studies of American types in British Herbaria. Part IV. Some species of Thomas Walter. RHODORA **50:** 190–208, pl. 1103–1115. Aug., 1948.

a brief quotation from Gray[3] (Vol. **1**, p. 136) will serve as a sample:

> "Saturday evening, February 9 (1839).—I have been engaged nearly the whole day upon the herbarium you [Torrey?] so much wished to examine, viz., that of Walter. I have not yet finished it, and find the examination very tedious, as the specimens are very often not labeled, except with the genus in his 'Flora,' so that I have first to make out his own species, and then what they are of succeeding authors.
>
> "The specimens are mostly mere bits, pasted down in a huge folio volume. I suspect this was done by Fraser, and the labels have sometimes been exchanged, so that it requires no little patience. Some of the things I most wished to see are not in the collection, and there are several in the collection which are not mentioned in the 'Flora.' You [Torrey?] would laugh to see what some of the things are that have puzzled us: thus, for instance, his 'Cucubalus polypetalus' is Saponaria officinalis! His 'Dianthus Carolinianus' is Frasera! in fruit. I will soon send you my notes on the collection, or a copy of them. Bentham looked over the Leguminosæ, Labiatæ, etc., with me. . . . ."

In his paper "The confused bases of the name Pinus palustris" (RHODORA **50:** 241–249. Oct., 1948) Prof. Fernald alluded (p. 247) to the desirability of a further study of Walter's pine material. On July 4, 1950, it was my good fortune to be able to visit the British Museum of Natural History and there Dr. George Taylor and Mr. Groves received me very courteously and were most helpful. I was permitted to look over the "Walter Herbarium." The pine material consists of four small mounts on p. 83, three at the bottom of the page and one above and to the left. Dr. Taylor has very kindly provided me with photographs of this pine material and these are shown (assembled) in Plate 1184. For convenience of reproduction here, the position of the left-hand specimen in Plate 1184 has been moved from its original one (immediately above the second specimen from the left, "P30") into aligment with it.

The left-hand specimen is about 15 cm. long; the rather slender leaves are in 2's and about 50–65 mm. long. The second specimen from the left ("P30") is about 18 cm. long; the twigs are slender and glabrous; the slender leaves are in 2's, about 50 mm. long, and more or less glaucous beneath. These two specimens are almost certainly *Pinus glabra* Walt., and perhaps should be considered the type material of that species.

[3] Gray, Jane Loring. Letters of Asa Gray. 2 vols., 838 p., illus. Houghton Mifflin & Co., Boston and N. Y. 1893.

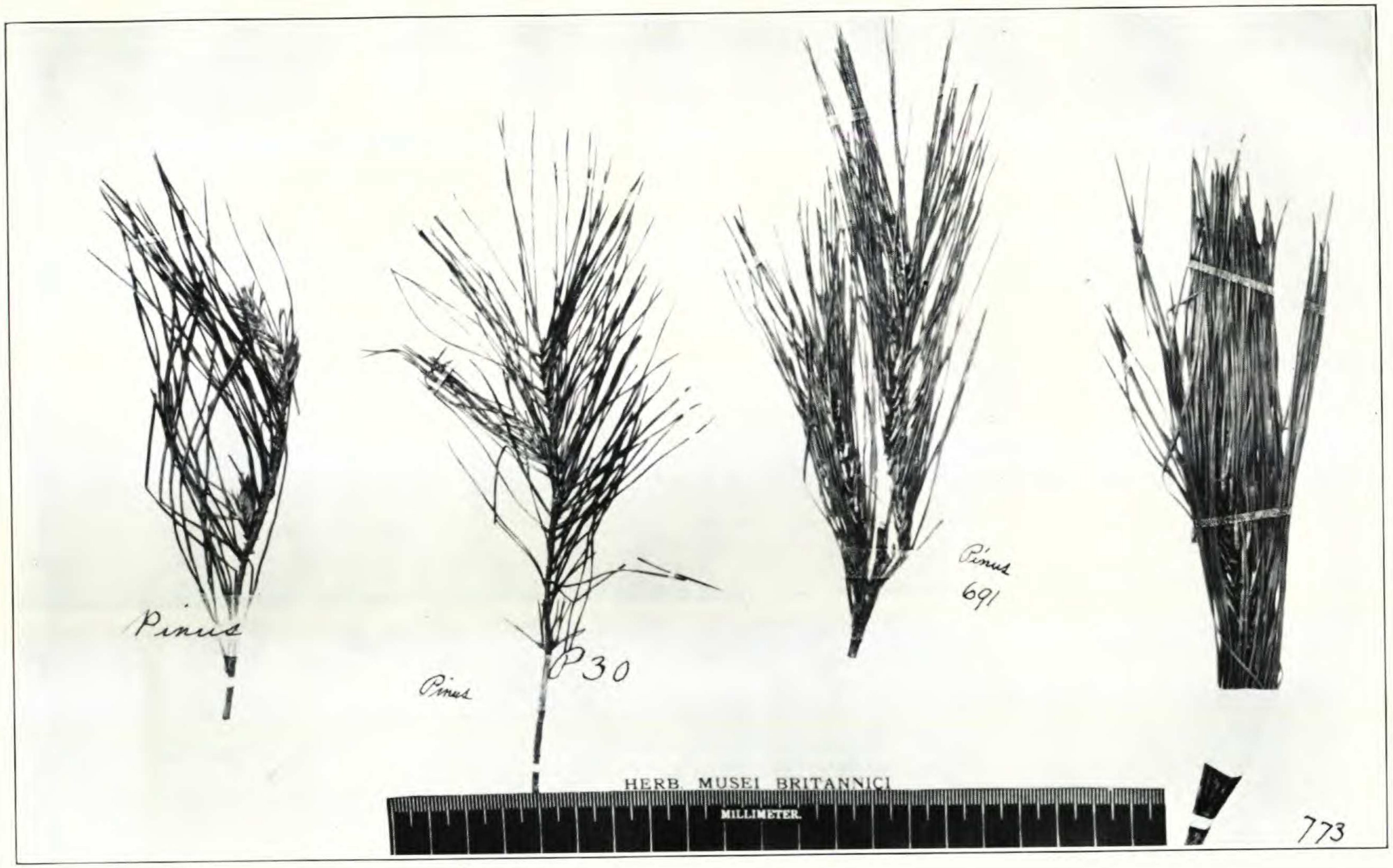

PLATE 1184. The four pine specimens in the "Walter Herbarium" in the British Museum of Natural History. The extreme left-hand specimen, for convenience of illustration, is shown out of its original position.

The third specimen from the left ("Pinus 691") is about 17 cm. long; the twigs are rather coarse; the leaves are in 2's, about 70 mm. long, coarser than those of the two specimens to its left and not at all glaucous. It is possible that this may be the type of Walter's *P. squarrosa*. The right-hand specimen ("773") is about 19.5 cm. long; the leaves are in 2's, about 110 mm. long and notably coarser than those of the other specimens. These two right-hand specimens (691 and 773) appear to me to be shortleaf pine (*Pinus echinata* Mill.).

Summary: The "Walter Herbarium," so far as pines are concerned, consists of four sterile fragments, all of 2-needled pines. Obviously the *Pinus lutea* and *P. palustris* of Walter's Flora Caroliniana are not represented. His *Pinus glabra* and *P. squarrosa* (the latter a synonym of *P. echinata*) are probably represented. I was not allowed to remove portions of the needles for later microscopical study. It is hoped that somebody in the British Museum may be induced to make that study, as the results might add appreciably to these preliminary findings.

Pinus californiana Loisel. in Duham.

Henri Louis Duhamel du Monceau's 7-volume folio work "Traité des Arbres et Arbustes que l'on cultive en pleine terre en Europe, et particulièrement en France" (1801–1819) appears to be very rare in libraries in this country. Some years ago Mrs. Janet R. Sellars, formerly of the Arnold Arboretum Library, kindly sent me a copy of the original description of *Pinus Californiana* Loisel. from Vol. 5, p. 243–244 of that work; she told me that Loiseleur-Deslongchamps was the author of Vols. 5–7 of the work mentioned. That description follows:

> "15. Pinus Californiana. P. foliis geminis ternisve, gracilibus; strobilis folio multò longioribus.
>
> "Je n'ai pas cru devoir négliger de faire connaître cette espèce, quoique le seul individu que j'aie vu au Jardin des Plantes n'eût ni fleurs ni fruit; la note qui m'a été communiquée par M. le professeur Thouin ne pouvant laisser de doute sur l'existence de ce Pin, comme espèce distincte. 'Cet arbre croît dans le voisinage de Monte-Rey, en Californie. Un des ses cônes, recueilli par Colligon,[4] jardinier de l'expédition de la Peyrouse, fut

[4] Presumably this is a slip for Collignon. See Guillaumin, A. Collignon, jardinier du voyage de La Perouse. [(Paris) Mus. Nat. Hist. Natur. Bul. (ser. 2) **20**: 96–100. 1948.] Jean-Nicolas Collignon was born in Metz in 1762 and apparently was not heard of again after December, 1788. He disappeared in the South Pacific, after seriously injuring his right arm in an explosion; whether lost at sea, murdered by savages or dead from other cause "nul ne saura jamais."

envoyé au Muséum d'Histoire naturelle en 1787. Ce cône avait la forme de celui du grand Pin maritime, (*N.B.* I assume that *Pinus pinaster* Ait., syn. *P. maritima* Lam., is intended—W.A.D.) mais il était plus gros d'un tiers dans toutes ses dimensions. Sous chacune de ses écailles se trouvaient deux semences de la grosseur de celles du Pin Cembro, (*N.B.* Presumably Swiss stone pine, *P. cembra* L. is referred to—W.A.D.) et dont l'amande était bonne à manger. Ces graines, semées au Muséum, ont produit deux jeunes plantes, qui, cultivés dans l'orangerie, se sont conservés pendant long-temps. La plupart ont été donnés à des cultivateurs des départemens meridionaux. Il en existe encore un pied au Jardin des Plantes, placé depuis quelques années en pleine terre dans le lieu nommé la petite butte; sans être tres-vigoureux il se maintient en santé.' J'ajouterai que cet arbre a environ sept pieds de haut; que ses feuilles sont longues de trois pouces, très-menues, d'un vert peu foncé, et qu'elles sont réunies deux ou trois ensemble dans la même gaîne."

Loudon (Arboretum et fruticetum Brittanicum. 1838), under the heading "Species of 3-leaved pines which cannot with certainty be referred to any of the preceding section, but of which there are living plants in England," describes (p. 2268–2269): "31. *P.* californiana *Lois.* The California Pine," based on Loiseleur's description above, so that the matter is not further clarified unless, to be sure, the British specimens he mentions are still living and can be located.

In 1840 Hooker & Arnott (Botany of the Beechey Voyage, p. 393) give a check list of seven then known California pines, including besides bishop, Coulter, Digger, and Monterey pines (the last-named under three different botanical names): "5. P. *Californica. Lois.—Loud. l. c.* p. 2268. Hab. Monterrey. *Colladon*[5]—A very dubious species." Note the misspelling, Californi*ca*.

The writer's main concern with the name *P. californiana* Loisel. is in connection with what immediately follows.

KNOBCONE PINE

In July 1846 Hartweg was in Monterey and wrote[6] that, in view of the hostilities between United States and Mexican troops, "I cannot venture far away from Monterey, nor is it advisable that I should do so, as I might fall in with a party of country people, who could not be persuaded that a person would come all the way from London to look after weeds, which in their opinion are

[5] See footnote 4.

[6] Hartweg, Theodor. XXIX.—Journal of a mission to California in search of plants. London Hort. Soc. Jour. 2: 187–191. 1847.

not worth picking up, but might suppose that I have some political object in view; I, therefore, confine my excursions within a few miles of the town." However, in later August of that year he had the good fortune of spending a day or two in the mountains across Monterey Bay near Santa Cruz where he discovered his *Pinus benthamiana* Hartw. (a synonym of *P. ponderosa* Laws.). He then adds this note (p. 189):

> "Another kind of pine that I found within a few hundred yards of the foregoing species, is, probably, the doubtful and little known Pinus californica; the trees seem to be of slow growth, and do not attain any great height, seldom more than 25 feet by 8 inches in diameter. The leaves are in bundles of three, 4½ inches long; cones 5 to 5½ inches long by 2 broad, the outer surface curved, the inner straight, scales on the outer surface more developed, enclosing two small, flat, winged seeds. The cones are only produced on the main stem; when ripe, they are of a light-brown colour, and stand off at nearly a right angle; when old, of a silvery grey, pressing firmly upon the stem, and remain on the trees for a series of years without opening or shedding their seeds."

The above appears to be the first published description of knobcone pine, antedating the presently accepted scientific name of that species (*P. attenuata* Lemmon, Mining and Sci. Press **64:** 45. 1892 and Gard. and Forest **5:** 65. 1892) 45 years. It is true that Engelmann (in Brewer, Watson and Gray, Botany of California **2:** 128. 1880), adopts the homonymous *P. tuberculata* Gordon (1849) for knobcone pine, dismissing *P. californica* Hartw. as a *nomen provisorium*, with the comment: "Hartweg's name of *Californica*, though much older, was applied only through a mistaken identification of the species with Loiseleur's plant above mentioned, and must therefore be dropped." Technically, no doubt, the Rules (Art. 37) may still be cited to support Engelmann's statement in this matter. However, *Pinus californica* Hartw. does not violate Art. 70 as it is not an "orthographic variant" of *P. californiana* Lois., the trivial adjective being a quite different one, and it is not a source of confusion, being certainly less so, say, than *Hieracium greenei* A. Gray and *H. greenii* Porter & Britton, both of which are legitimate. J. G. Lemmon (Notes on Cone-bearers of North-west America.—I. Garden & Forest **5:** 64–66. Feb., 1892) discusses *Pinus californiana* Lois., claiming that it should be accepted as the scientific name for Monterey pine, but, in an emendatory suffixed note, C. S. Sargent takes the position that the name is too uncertain.

A little later, Lemmon [Notes on West American Coniferae.—III. Erythea **1** (11): 224–231. Nov., 1893] writes that Monterey pine "is practically the only pine that would be noted for miles around (Monterey) except by keen-eyed botanists like Douglas and Coulter" but seems to agree with Sargent that *P. californiana* Lois. should be rejected. He also defends his name *P. attenuata* for knobcone pine as against *P. californica* Hartw.

Disregarding for the moment the rather specious and highly legalistic argument that Hooker & Arnott's typographical error in the spelling of Loiseleur's species makes *P. californica* Hartw. homonymous, and considering that Hartweg was the discoverer of knobcone pine and wrote an excellent description of it long before anybody else did, it seems to me that his name, even though tentatively given, has sufficient merit to make it worthy of consideration by the Executive Committee, to which the Rules indicate that "doubtful cases should be referred."

Bristlecone Fir

It is a familiar fact that the name-bringing synonyms of bristlecone fir, *Pinus bracteata* D. Don and *P. venusta* Dougl. were both published in 1836 but priority between the two has not hitherto been established. Little [Notes on nomenclature in Pinaceae. Amer. Jour. Bot. **31** (9): 587–596. Nov., 1944] indicates that *Pinus venusta* Dougl. (Comp. Bot. Mag. **2:** 152. 1836) was published December 1, but adds that "the exact date has not been determined" for *P. bracteata* D. Don [Linn. Soc. London Trans. **17** (3): 442. 1836]. He concludes: "The name established in usage by Sargent more than fifty years ago [viz, *Abies venusta* (Dougl.) K. Koch—W.A.D.] should be retained for the present." Keck [Bibliographic notes on Abies bracteata and Pinus Coulteri. Madroño **8** (6): 177–179. Apr., 1946] challenged Little's conclusion, claiming an 1832 date for *Pinus bracteata* D. Don in Lambert. Little rebuts Keck's argument in his paper "Lambert's 'Description of the genus Pinus,' 1832 edition" [Madroño **10** (2): 33–47. Apr., 1949]. He states that *Pinus bracteata* was not published in 1832, and that the name appears in extra pages of two known copies only, somewhere between 1837 and 1839, as shown by watermark dates. He again recognizes *Abies venusta* (Dougl.) K. Koch as the acceptable scientific name for

bristlecone fir but adds: "However, if the exact date of publication in 1836 of part 3 of Volume 17 of the Transactions of the Linnean Society of London should ever be established as before December 1, as is mathematically probable, then it would be necessary to take up the name *Abies bracteata* (D. Don) Nutt.

No. 377. ESTABLISHED UPWARDS OF THIRTY YEARS.

BENT'S MONTHLY LITERARY ADVERTISER

LONDON, JULY 11, 1836.

NEW PUBLICATIONS, *From June 9, to July 9, 1836.*

Tattersall's (Geo.) Lakes of England; post 8vo, 12s.
Taxæ Sacræ Penitentiariæ Apostolicæ, 12mo, 3s.
Thornton's Treatise on the Teeth and Gums, 8vo, 2s 6d.
→Transactions of the Linnæan Society, Vol. 17, Pt. 3, 4to, 1l 1s.
Tribunal of Manners, a Satyricon, post 8vo, 5s.
Trollope's (Mrs.) Life and Adventures of Jonat. J. Whitlaw, 3 vol. post 8vo, 31s 6d.
Twamley's Romance of Nature; or, the Flower Season illustrated, 8vo, 31s 6d.

FIG. 1. A portion of Bent's Monthly Literary Advertiser, No. 377, for July 11, 1836, showing the date of publication of Vol. 17, Pt. 3 of The Transactions of the Linnean Society of London.

On July 4, 1950, which obviously is no holiday in Britain, it was my privilege to visit the headquarters of the Linnean Society in London. There Mr. Spencer Savage, the Librarian and Assistant Secretary, very kindly showed me the famous collection of Linneana—his letters, manuscripts, library, herbarium, shells, etc. There is no record there of the *exact* date of *Pinus bracteata* D. Don, but I did find this interesting handwritten note in their records of Part 3, Vol. 17 of the Society's Transactions: "At end of June or beginning of July. Council Meeting 21 June 1836 the price of the Part was fixed (at £1/1). In Monthly Literary Advertiser 1836. No. 377 p. 84 the Part is recorded as on the market. J.S." Through the kindness of Messrs. C. B. Oldman, Principal Keeper, Department of Printed Books, and L. C. Punter of the Photographic Service, British Museum, I have obtained a photostatic copy of Bent's Monthly Literary Advertiser (No. 377. July 11, 1836), which (because of its great rarity or perhaps entire absence in American libraries) is partly reproduced in Fig. 1 herewith, showing that Vol. 17, Part 3, of the

Transactions of the Linnaean Society was issued sometime between June 9 and July 9, 1836. It is obvious, therefore, that *Pinus bracteata* D. Don has about five months or so priority over *P. venusta* Dougl., and that the correct botanical name of bristlecone fir is *Abies bracteata* (D. Don) Nutt., as Dr. Little surmised (*loc. cit.*, Madroño), and as Dr. Keck indicated (*op. cit.*) though on another premise.

Two Oaks

Quercus × hawkinsi Sudw., Amer. Forestry 23: 685, illus. 1917.

In the 1944 processed Forest Service CheckList[7] I called attention to the fact that the spelling of the trivial name should be corrected to *hawkinsiae*, the late Mr. Sudworth having said in his original description: "It is proposed to designate this hybrid oak . . . in honor of its discoverer, Mrs. Eugene Hawkins," whose picture he furnishes by the side of the type tree in Carroll County, western Tennessee.

It might be explained that the Check List referred to was prepared by Dr. Elbert L. Little, Jr., under the supervision of of the Forest Service Committee on Tree and Range Plant Names whereof Dr. Homer L. Shantz was then chairman. Dr. Little, who had been with the Ecuador forest survey party in 1943, under the auspices of the Nelson Rockefeller Office of Inter-American Affairs, was transferred late in the year to the Cinchona survey project in Colombia and, Dr. Shantz having retired, the Check List mss. was entrusted to me. It was necessary for me to obtain answers to questions Dr. Little had entered on the mss., to proofread the stencils, and to prepare an introduction and the indexes. In the course of proofreading the stencils it seemed desirable for me to intercalate 37 notes, among which was the note on this oak hybrid.

The original spelling *hawkinsi* seems to be "a clearly unintentional orthographic error" subject to correction under Art. 70 of the Rules. Prof. Fernald has accepted this correction in the eighth edition of Gray's Manual (1950). This hybrid occurs under the name "× *Q. hawkinsii* Sudworth" (p. 28) in Ernest J.

[7] Little, Elbert L., Jr., and U. S. Forest Service Tree and Range Plant Name Committee. Check list of the native and naturalized trees of the United States, including Alaska. 325 p. Mimeogr. 1944.

Palmer's "Hybrid oaks of North America" [Arnold Arbor. Jour. 29 (1): 1–48. Jan., 1948]. Prof. Rehder adopted the name *Q.* × *porteri* for this cross between black and northern red oaks in his Manual and also in his "Bibliography of cultivated trees and shrubs" (1949) but, as Dr. Little has indicated in the Check List, *Q.* × *hawkinsiae* antedates the valid publication of *Q.* × *porteri*.

Quercus virginiana var. **eximea** Sarg., Bot. Gaz. 65: 447. 1918.

Again, in the 1944 mimeographed Forest Service Check List, I indicated that the above varietal name should be changed to *eximia*, under Art. 70, as either a typographic or unintentional orthographic error. I have discussed this matter with Prof. George M. Harper, Jr., chairman of the classical department of Williams College, who states that there is no authority for the spelling *eximeus*, *-a*, *-um*. Incidentally, it seems to be a fairly common (and unhappy) botanical practice to employ *exiguus* and *eximius* as synonyms of *angustus* ("narrow"); *exiguus* means "scanty"; *eximius* (literally, "taken out") signifies "distinguished," " extraordinary."

Florida Doveplum

Coccoloba laurifolia Jacq., Plant. Rar. Hort. Caes. Schoenbrun. **3:** 267. 1798.

In the 1944 Forest Service Check List above referred to, Dr. Little followed the traditional practice of placing the doveplum of southern Florida under the above name. In a note on that species (p. 71) I stated that, before a final revision of the Check List was made, "it is desirable that, so far as possible, the relationship of *Coccolobis laurifolia* Jacq., whose type locality is Caracas, Venezuela, to the Floridian species, *C. floridana* Meisn. (in DC., Prodr. Syst. Regni Vegetab. 14: 165–6. 1856) and *C. curtissii* Lindau (in Engler, A., Bot. Jahrb. 13: 159. 1890) should be inquired into. This may, of course, for final solution, require study of type material, presumably in Europe, and further field study. It is quite possible, indeed, that true *C. laurifolia* does not occur naturally in Florida. Jacquin and Meisner (*opp. cit.*) indicate that *C. laurifolia* has included stamens; *C. floridana* is described with exserted stamens. Leaf shape and the presence or absence of teeth on the stamineal tubes of these forms are

among other matters that need further study. Mr. E. P. Killip of the U. S. National Herbarium agrees with me that the present knowledge concerning the relationship of these forms is unsatisfactory."

Little [Nomina conservanda proposals for ten genera of trees and shrubs. Madroño **7** (8): 240–251. Oct., 1944] proposed *Coccoloba* P. Br. for conservation, chiefly on the ground that most authors are using that name, and this was approved by the nomenclature committee of the American Society for Plant Taxonomists though not formally ratified by the International Congress in Stockholm in 1950.

It may be worthy of note that the U. S. National Museum Florida material of "*C. laurifolia*" is now placed in folders labeled *C. floridana*. Unfortunately the South American material of *C. laurifolia* is, at this writing, not on file in that herbarium. If one compares the original descriptions of *C. laurifolia* Jacq. (Plant. Rar. Hort. Caes. Schoenbrun. Descr. Icon. **3:** 267. 1798) with that of *C. floridana* Meisn. (*op. cit.*) and Jacquin's plate (267) with that, say, of Sargent (Silva of North America **6:** 119–120, tab. 300. 1894) some noteworthy differences will be observed. For example, Jacquin's figure of his type of *C. laurifolia* shows a plant with leaves of an oblong type, whereas Sargent's plate of Florida "*C. laurifolia*" has leaves narrowed at the base and of a narrowly obovate or oblong-obovate type, and this agrees substantially with Meisner's description of his *C. floridana*. Admittedly, however, size and shape of leaves in this genus are variable in the same species. Moreover, *C. floridana* is described with leaves less rigid, the reticulations less prominent, and with the margins recurved as compared with those of *C. laurifolia*. *C. floridana* also was described with exserted stamens and included styles, whereas *C. laurifolia* was described with included stamens and exserted styles. The calyx of *C. laurifolia* is reported to be rounded at base and that of *C. floridana* attenuated, its pedicels noticeably more often in pairs and it is described as a considerably larger tree than *C. laurifolia*, and there appear to be other minor described differences.

To Richard A. Howard [The genus Coccoloba in Cuba. Arnold Arbor. Jour. **30** (4): 388–424. Oct., 1949] appears to belong the credit of first calling attention to the fact that this